"(b) Electronic Funds Transfer. -- The Except as provided in G.S. 105-163.40, the Secretary shall not require a taxpayer to pay a tax by electronic funds transfer unless, during the applicable period for that tax, the average amount of the taxpayer's required payments of the tax was at least twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) a month. The twenty thousand dollar (\$20,000) threshold applies separately to each tax. The applicable period for a tax is a 12-month period, designated by the Secretary, preceding the imposition or review of the payment requirement. The requirement that a taxpayer pay a tax by electronic funds transfer remains in effect until suspended by the Secretary. Every 12 months after requiring a taxpayer to pay a tax by electronic funds transfer, the Secretary shall determine whether, during the applicable period for that tax, the average amount of the taxpayer's required payments of the tax was at least twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) a month. If it was not, the Secretary shall suspend the requirement that the taxpayer pay the tax by electronic funds transfer and shall notify the taxpayer in writing that the requirement has been suspended."

Section 9. Sections 1 through 6 of this act are effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 1999. G.S. 105-129.35(b), as amended by this act, is repealed effective January 1, 2002, for property placed in service on or after that date. Sections 7 and 8 of this act become effective for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2000. The remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 15th day of July, 1999.

Became law upon approval of the Governor at 10:34 p.m. on the 4th day of August, 1999.

H.B. 1222

SESSION LAW 1999-390

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE STATE COURT SYSTEM BY CREATING A STATE JUDICIAL COUNCIL.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Chapter 7A of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new Article to read:

"ARTICLE 7A.

"State Judicial Council.

"§ 7A-49.4. Composition of State Judicial Council.

- (a) The State Judicial Council shall consist of 17 members as follows:
 - (1) The Chief Justice, who chairs the Council;
 - (2) The Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals;
 (3) A district attorney chosen by the Conference of District Attorneys:
 - (4) A public defender chosen by the public defenders;